

Land Acquisition Committee
Minutes of Meeting
February 12, 2015
Second Floor Conference Room
Town Hall – 10 Mudge Way

PRESENT: Don Cullis, Chair; Lori Eggert; Caroline Fedele; Daniel Puffer;
Richard Torti

Elizabeth Bagdonas, Conservation Administrator

ABSENT: William Speciale; Tom Mulligan

The meeting began at 7:30 pm.

Mr. Cullis began with a review of the action items set at the last meeting, held on January 13th. Reference was made to the items on the agenda, which were listed in the minutes of January 13th. He stated that a strategy down the road would include input from the Selectmen on the specifics of the land acquisition charge that had been set by them, including municipal parcels. He believed that the current task should be to identify appropriate municipal parcels, but not necessarily to take any actions or begin negotiations. The committee could perhaps look at the multiple values of some parcels.

The discussion turned to requesting an appointment with the Selectmen. Ms. Fedele pointed out that the Selectmen's agenda included a members' liaison report period, when such matters could be brought up by Selectmen liaisons to other committees. She volunteered to report on the committee's current actions and concerns.

Mr. Cullis then reported that he had analyzed the Comprehensive Plan for action items that might relate to the Land Acquisition Committee. He suggested that the committee arrange a meeting with the Planning Board Director to discuss this. He and Ms. Fedele would take the lead on this task.

The requirements for athletic fields were discussed in terms of slope and size. The field study report that the town had completed was cited as a source of this information. It was pointed out that field requirements now included football, lacrosse and field hockey space.

The Coast Guard housing site was discussed in terms of acquisition or planning. Ms. Bagdonas will ask DPW about the status of the design proposal and stormwater management. A summary of the goals was then discussed, with the intention of informing the Selectmen.

Mr. Cullis stated that he would do a write-up on the committee's activities as a liaison update to bring to the Selectmen's meeting, and would accompany Ms. Fedele to that meeting. The identification of properties around Lane School could be described as one of the projects the committee was considering, and the group could come back to it after feedback from the Selectmen.

Ms. Bagdonas provided a report on the 135 South Road trail easement project, which will be headed by Mr. Cullis. She agreed to telephone the owners' attorney to let him know of the new contact.

Mr. Torti asked for more information on the Middlesex Community College trail connections and contacts. Ms. Bagdonas will ask Art Smith to help with contacting Jonathan Crockett of MCC, and will put together a GIS map of the Alcott Street-Bandera Drive properties abutting the MCC land.

The next agenda will include the following items:

- Report on Planning Board Discussion
- Update on Selectmen's Meeting
- Evaluation of the open space parcel lists
- Land Acquisition and Easement Updates

The committee members in attendance agreed to schedule the next meeting on either Tuesday, March 10th or Thursday, March 12th. Ms. Bagdonas will email the committee to seek the members' preferences and select the best date.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth Bagdonas.

Minutes approved at meeting of April 14, 2015.